

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (previously presented) A mounting arrangement for attaching an electrically powered stapler mechanically and electrically to a photocopying equipment CHARACTERISED IN THAT the mounting arrangement comprises:

a mechanical mounting device for mechanically connecting the stapler to the photocopying equipment, and including a first attachment member provided on the stapler and a second attachment member provided on the photocopying equipment; and

an electrical mounting device for electrically connecting the stapler to a power supply,

wherein one of said first and second attachment members is provided with guide rails integral therewith, and the other of said first and second attachment members is provided with guide runners integral therewith, and

wherein when the stapler is mounted to the photocopying equipment, said guide rails and guide runners engage with each other and the mechanical

mounting device and the electrical mounting device form an integrated unit.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) A mounting arrangement in accordance with claim 1, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the mechanical mounting device comprises a snap-action latch which secures the first attachment member to the second attachment member.

4. (previously presented) A mounting arrangement in accordance with claim 1, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the electrical mounting device comprises a first electrical connecting part attached to one of said first and second attachment members, and a second electrical connecting part attached to the other of said first and second attachment members,

wherein when said first attachment member is attached to said second attachment member, an electrical connection is formed between the first and second electrical connecting parts.

5. (cancelled)

6. (previously presented) A mounting arrangement in accordance with claim 3, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the electrical mounting device comprises a first electrical connecting part attached to one of said first and second attachment members, and a second electrical connecting part attached to the other of said first and second attachment members,

wherein when said first attachment member is attached to said second attachment member, an electrical connection is formed between the first and second electrical connecting parts.

7. (previously presented) A stapler constructed to be electrically and mechanically attached to a photocopying equipment, the stapler comprising:

a first mechanical attachment member including a guide arrangement for mechanically attaching the stapler to the photocopying equipment; and

an electrical attachment member for electrically connecting the stapler to a power supply,

wherein the guide arrangement includes guide runners or guide rails integral with said first mechanical attachment member and disposed to engage

corresponding portions of a second mechanical attachment member on the photocopying equipment when the stapler is mounted to the photocopying equipment.

8. (previously presented) A stapler according to claim 7, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the first mechanical attachment member includes part of a snap-action latch mechanism to secure said first and second mechanical attachment members to each other so as to form an integral unit.

9. (previously presented) A stapler according to claim 8, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the electrical attachment member comprises a first electrical connecting part attached to the first mechanical attachment member and disposed to make an electrical connection with a corresponding second electrical connecting part on the photocopying equipment when the stapler is mounted to the photocopying equipment.

10. (previously presented) A stapler according to claim 7, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the electrical attachment member comprises a first electrical connecting part attached to the first mechanical attachment member and

disposed to make an electrical connection with a corresponding second electrical connecting part on the photocopying equipment when the stapler is mounted to the photocopying equipment.

11. (new) A mounting arrangement according to claim 4, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the guide rails include portions of U-shaped channels extending along opposite sides of one of said first and second attachment members, and the guide runners include portions of U-shaped channels extending along opposite sides of the other of said first and second attachment members, and further in that the first electrical connecting part is positioned between the U-shaped channels of one of said first and second attachment members, and the second electrical connecting part is positioned between the U-shaped channels of the other of said first and second attachment members.

12. (new) A mounting arrangement according to claim 11, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the first electrical connecting part includes electrical sleeves, and the second electrical connecting part includes electrical pins so that when the first attachment member is attached to the second attachment member, the electrical sleeves

engage with corresponding electrical pins to form the electrical connection.

13. (new) A mounting arrangement according to claim 6, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the guide rails include portions of U-shaped channels extending along opposite sides of one of said first, and second attachment members and the guide runners include portions of U-shaped channels extending along opposite sides of the other of said first and second attachment members, and further in that the first electrical connecting part is positioned between the U-shaped channels of one of said first and second attachment members, and the second electrical connecting part is positioned between the U-shaped channels of the other of said first and second attachment members.

14. (new) A mounting arrangement according to claim 13, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the first electrical connecting part includes electrical sleeves, and the second electrical connecting part includes electrical pins so that when the first attachment member is attached to the second attachment member, the electrical sleeves engage with corresponding electrical pins to form the electrical connection.

15. (new) A mounting arrangement according to Claim 14, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the snap-action latch includes a latching portion positioned at a back end portion of the stapler and a catching member positioned at a front end portion of the second attachment member, such that when the first attachment member is attached to the second attachment member, the catching member engages with the latching portion.

16. (new) A stapler according to claim 9, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the guide arrangement includes U-shaped channels extending along opposite sides of said first mechanical attachment member, and the first electrical connecting part is positioned between the U-shaped channels of said first mechanical attachment member.

17. (new) A stapler according to Claim 16, CHARACTERISED IN THAT said part of the snap-action latch mechanism includes a latching portion positioned at a back end portion of the stapler for cooperation with a catching member positioned at a front end portion of the second mechanical attachment member.

18. (new) A stapler according to claim 17,
CHARACTERISED IN THAT, the first electrical connecting
part includes electrical sleeves or electrical pins.